

effect in a foreign country which is different and unintended under U.S. practice (i.e., changing “consisting of” to “comprising”); (v) to remove or amend original claim language that could be regarded as alternative expressions that are acceptable under foreign patent practice but possibly subject to objection under U.S. practice, typically having a broadening or neutral effect in the amended claim; and/or (vi) to improve the clarity or meaning of the original language.

In the case of amendments effectively changing an original claim element expressed as a “means plus function” that could raise a presumption of claim expression under 35 U.S.C. 112, 6th paragraph to a structural expression or to an expression removing the presumption of a “means-plus-function” statement, it is not intended to narrow the claim so amended for purposes of patentability, but rather to place the claim in a form considered to be intended by the applicant from a foreign country where claim limitations described in terms of means-plus-function do not have the same effect as under U.S. practice. Thus, such amendments are intended to establish a full range of equivalents to the claim elements so amended under the U.S. doctrine of equivalents and beyond the range associated with “means-plus-function” expressions according to 35 U.S.C. 112, 6th paragraph, just as if the claim so amended was presented originally in its amended form.

All rights are reserved to the original disclosed and claimed subject matter and any cancellation of claims is made without prejudice or disclaimer.

LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A value document, comprising in particular bank note, ~~having~~ a value document substrate and at least two different feature substances for checking the value document, including ~~characterized in that~~ a first feature substance that is incorporated into the volume of the substrate of the value document, and a second feature substance that is formed by a luminescent substance which is provided on ~~applied to~~ the value document substrate in the form of a coding.
2. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the first feature substance is distributed substantially uniformly within the volume of the value document substrate.
3. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein ~~or 2, characterized in that~~ a third feature substance is provided on ~~applied to~~ the value document substrate, ~~preferably printed thereon~~, which is different from the first and second feature substances.
4. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein at least one of ~~at least one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that~~ the first and ~~and/or~~ third feature substance is formed by at least one of a luminescent substance and ~~and/or~~ a mixture of luminescent substances.
5. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein at least one of ~~claims 1 to 4, characterized in that~~ at least one of the feature substances is formed on the basis of a host lattice doped with rare earth elements.
6. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein at least one of ~~claims 1 to 5, characterized in that~~ the coding extends over a predominant part of a surface of the value document, ~~in particular over the~~

~~substantially total surface of the value document.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein at ~~least one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that~~ the coding is a bar code.

8. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein at ~~least one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that~~ the first feature substance is present in coded form, and the coding of the first feature substance lies in the material properties, ~~in particular in the form of the emission and/or excitation spectra of the first feature substance.~~

9. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein at ~~least one of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that~~ the value document substrate is formed by a printed or unprinted cotton paper.

10. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein at ~~least one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that~~ the value document substrate is formed by a printed or unprinted plastic film.

11. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein at ~~least one of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that~~ the second feature substance is printed on the value document substrate.

12. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein the substrate is paper formed from a moist paper web during its production, and at least one of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that the second feature substance is applied to the moist paper web, ~~in particular sprayed on,~~ in the form of the coding during papermaking.

13. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 3, wherein ~~and at least one of claims 1 to 12, characterized in that~~ the third feature substance is

provided on ~~applied to~~ the value document substrate, ~~in particular printed thereon~~, in the form of a coding.

14. (Currently Amended) The value document according to claim 1, wherein at least one of claims 3 to 13, characterized in that the third feature substance is printed on the value document substrate together with a printing ink, ~~in particular a visible printing ink~~, in the form of a printed image.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a value document according to claim 1, comprising the steps: incorporating any of claims 1 to 14, characterized in that the first feature substance is ~~incorporated~~ into the volume of the value document substrate, and applying the second feature substance is ~~applied~~ to the value document substrate in the form of a coding.

16. (Currently Amended) The production method according to claim 15, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the second feature substance is printed on the value document substrate.

17. (Currently Amended) The production method according to claim 15, wherein the value document substrate is formed by a printed or unprinted cotton paper formed from a moist paper web during its production, and ~~characterized in that~~ the second feature substance is sprayed onto the moist paper web during papermaking.

18. (Currently Amended) The production method according to claim 15, wherein at least one of claims 15 to 17, characterized in that a third feature substance is applied to the value document substrate, ~~in particular printed thereon~~.

19. (Currently Amended) The production method according to claim 18, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the second and third feature substances are applied to the value document substrate as a mixture or ~~as separate substances~~.

20. (Currently Amended) The production method according to claim 18, wherein ~~or 19, characterized in that~~ the third feature substance is printed on the value document substrate together with a printing ink, ~~in particular a visible printing ink,~~ in the form of a printed image.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for checking or processing a value document according to claim 1, comprising the steps: checking any of claims 1 to 14, wherein the authenticity of the value document ~~is checked~~ and carrying out a value recognition of the document ~~carried out~~ by using at least one characteristic property of the first feature substance and/or luminescent substance for checking the authenticity of the value document, and at least one of the coding formed by the luminescent substance and ~~and/or~~ the first feature substance for the value recognition of the value document.

22. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 21, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ at least one characteristic property of the first feature substance is used for checking the authenticity of the value document, and the coding formed by the first feature substance for the value recognition of the value document, by a user of a first user group.

23. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 21, wherein ~~or 22, characterized in that~~ at least one characteristic property of the luminescent substance is used for checking the authenticity of the value document, and the coding formed by the second feature substance for the value recognition of the value document, by a user of a second user group.

24. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 21, wherein ~~at least one of claims 21 to 23, characterized in that~~ at least one characteristic property of at least one of the first and ~~and/or~~ third feature substance is used for checking the authenticity of the value document, and the coding formed by the first feature substance is used for the value recognition of the value document, if the user

belongs to the first user group, and at least one characteristic property of the second feature substance is used for checking the authenticity of the value document, and the coding formed by the second feature substance is used for the value recognition of the value document, if the user belongs to the second user group.

25. (Currently Amended) The method according to claims 21, wherein ~~to 24,~~ ~~characterized in that~~ the first feature substance is a luminescent substance, and for the authenticity check or value recognition by a user of the first user group, the first feature substance is irradiated with radiation from its excitation range, the emission is determined at at least one wavelength from the emission range of the first feature substance, and the check of at least one of authenticity and ~~and/or~~ the value recognition is carried out on the basis of the determined emission.

26. (Currently Amended) The method according to claims 21, wherein ~~to 25,~~ ~~characterized in that~~ the second feature substance is a luminescent substance, for the authenticity check or value recognition by a user of the second user group the second feature substance is irradiated with radiation from its excitation range, the emission is determined at at least one wavelength from the emission range of the second feature substance, and the check of at least one of authenticity and ~~and/or~~ the value recognition is carried out on the basis of the determined emission.

27. (Currently Amended) The method according to claims 25, wherein at least one of ~~and 26,~~ ~~characterized in that~~ the first and ~~and/or~~ second feature substance is irradiated with at least one of visible and ~~and/or~~ infrared radiation, and the emission of the irradiated feature substance is determined in the infrared spectral range.

28. (Currently Amended) The method according to claims 25, wherein ~~to 27,~~ ~~characterized in that~~ the irradiation is performed with a light-emitting diode or laser diode.

29. (New) The value document according to claim 3, wherein the third feature

substance is provided as a printing.

30. (New) The value document according to claim 6, wherein the coding extends over substantially the total surface of the value document.

31. (New) The value document according to claim 8, wherein the material properties comprise at least one of the emission and excitation spectra of the first feature substance.

32. (New) The value document according to claim 13, wherein the third feature substance is provided as a printing.

33. (New) The production method according to claim 18, wherein the third feature substance is applied by printing.

34. (New) The production method according to claim 19, wherein the third feature substances are applied to the value document substrate as separate substances.